GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1002
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Electronic Manufacturing
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Will the Minister of ELECTRONICS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology be pleased to state:

(a) the details of domestic demand for branded electronic items and the items being manufactured indigenously;
(b) whether the domestic production of branded electronic items is adequate to meet the demand;
(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the steps taken by the Government for augmenting manufacturing of electronic items domestically;
(d) whether the Government is contemplating formulation of any policy for promotion of R&D in the field of electronics and information technology; and
(e) if so, the details thereof and the action taken in this regard so far?

Answer

(a) and (b): As per figures available from the Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS), Ministry of Commerce and Industry for 2015-16, it is seen that India continues to be a net importer of electronic goods. The available data suggests that domestic production is not sufficient to meet the total demand. The relevant figures of total imports of electronics into India and total exports of electronics from India are given below:
Import and Export of Electronics (Rs. Crore)
Commodity 2014-15 2015-16 % Growth
Imports 2,25,444 2,62,083 16.25
Exports 36,723 37,300 1.57
The estimates of production of electronic goods as per figures provided by various Industry Associations are given below:
Production of Electronics Sector (Rs. Crore)
S.No. Sub-sector 2014-15 2015-16
1 Consumer Electronics 55,806 55,765
2 Industrial Electronics 39,374 45,083
3 Computer Hardware 18,691 19,885
4 Mobile phones 18,900 54,000
5 Strategic Electronics 15,700 Not Available
6 Electronic Components 39,723 45,383
7 Light Emitting Diodes (LED) 2,172 5,092
(c): Steps taken by the Government for augmenting manufacturing of electronic items domestically are listed at Annexure.
(d) and (e): Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has acknowledged Research & Development (R&D) and promotion of innovation as an integral part of Electronics & Information, Communication Technology (ICT) ecosystem and it has been supporting the entire value chain of R&D activities in the country ranging from the basic components to sophisticated product development. MeitY has taken various initiatives towards promotion of R&D in the different areas of Electronics & ICT including Communication, Convergence and Broadband Technologies, Microelectronics, VLSI (Very Large Scale

Integration), Nanotechnologies, Electronic materials, Industrial electronics, High Performance Computing, Networking, Cyber Security, Medical electronics, Strategic electronics, RF/Microwave and Millimetre technologies, free and open source software, Language Computing and development of technologies for common man.

Initiatives taken by MeitY for the promotion of R&D in the field of Electronics and Information Technology are as under:
(i) National Policy on Electronics (NPE) 2012: One of the missions of NPE 2012 is to promote a vibrant and sustainable ecosystem of R&D, design and engineering and innovation to enhance manufacturing capabilities in electronics material, components, sub-assemblies as well as products.
(ii) National Policy on Information Technology (NPIT) 2012: NPIT 2012 focuses on applications of technology-enabled approaches to overcome monumental developmental challenges in education, health, skill development, financial inclusion, employment generation, governance etc. to greatly enhance efficiency across the board in the economy. The objectives of this policy inter alia include "To promote innovation and R&D in cutting edge technologies and development of applications and solutions in areas like localization, location based services, mobile value added services, Cloud Computing, Social Media and Utility models."
(iii) ICT&E (Information, Communication Technology and Electronics) R&D and Innovation Framework 2013 has been designed with a Vision "To attain global leadership in the ICT&E sector by building a vibrant eco-system to nurture, encourage, promote, facilitate and support research, innovation and product development for rapid, inclusive and sustainable growth of the country."
(iv) MeitY is also implementing a Multiplier Grants Scheme (MGS). MGS aims to encourage collaborative R&D between industry and academics/ R&D institutions for development of products and packages.

(v) In order to encourage filing of International Patents, a Scheme, "Support International Patent Protection in Electronics & IT (SIP-EIT)" for SMEs (Small and Medium Enterprises) and Technology Start-Up Companies is operational.

Annexure

Steps taken by the Government for augmenting manufacturing of electronic items domestically

1. Promotion of electronics hardware manufacturing is one of the pillars of Digital India campaign of the Government.
2. The National Policy on Electronics (NPE 2012) was notified in October 2012 with the vision to create a globally competitive electronics design and manufacturing industry to meet the country's needs and serve the international market.
3. Modified Special Incentive Package Scheme (M-SIPS) provides financial incentives to offset disability and attract investments in the Electronics Systems Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) sector. The scheme was notified in July 2012. The scheme provides subsidy for investments in capital expenditure - 20% for investments in SEZs and 25% in non-SEZs. The scheme is available for both new projects and expansion projects. For high technology and high capital investment units like Fabs, production subsidy @10% is also provided.
4. Electronics Manufacturing Clusters (EMC) Scheme provides financial assistance for creating world-class infrastructure for electronics manufacturing units. The assistance for the projects for setting up of Greenfield Electronics Manufacturing Clusters is 50% of the project cost subject to a ceiling of Rs.50 Crore for 100 acres of land. For larger areas, pro-rata ceiling applies. For lower extent, the extent of support would be decided by the Steering Committee for Clusters (SCC) subject to the ceiling of Rs.50 Crore. For setting up of Brownfield Electronics Manufacturing Cluster, 75% of the cost of infrastructure, subject to a ceiling of Rs.50 Crore is provided.
5. Policy for providing preference to domestically manufactured electronic products in Government procurement is under implementation.
6. Approvals for all foreign direct investment up-to 100% in the electronic hardware manufacturing sector are under the automatic route.
7. For promotion of exports in the sector, Merchandise Exports from India Scheme (MEIS) and Export Promotion Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme are available under the Foreign Trade Policy, 2015-20. MEIS offers export incentives so as to offset disabilities of manufacturing. The export incentive for electronic goods is available @ 2% of FOB value of export. Zero duty EPCG scheme allows import of capital goods at zero customs duty, subject to specified export obligation.

8. Under the Electronics Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) Scheme, approved units are allowed duty free import of goods required by them for carrying on export activities, CST reimbursement and excise duty exemption on procurement of indigenously available goods, as per the Foreign Trade Policy.
9. Tariff Structure has been rationalized to promote indigenous manufacturing of electronic goods, including inter-alia Televisions, Electronic Components, Set Top Boxes, LED Products, Medical Electronics, Solar PV Cells and Microwave Ovens.
10. To promote indigenous manufacturing of Televisions, baggage rules have been amended to ban duty free import of Flat Panel Television Sets w.e.f. August 2014 under the baggage allowance.
11. Mandatory compliance to safety standards has been notified for identified Electronic Products with the objective to curb import of sub-standard and unsafe electronics goods. As of now, 30 electronic products are under the ambit of this Order.

Skill Development

12. Two Schemes for skill development of 90,000 and 3,28,000 persons respectively in the electronics sector have been approved to provide human resource for the industry.
13. The Scheme to enhance the number of PhDs in the Electronic System Design and Manufacturing (ESDM) and IT/IT Enabled Services (ITES) sectors has been approved. 3000 PhDs are proposed to be supported under the Scheme.

Promotion of Innovation and R&D

14. Electronic Development Fund (EDF) policy has been approved to support Daughter Funds in the area of Electronics System Design and Manufacturing, Nano-electronics and IT. The fund is housed in Canbank Venture Capital Fund Ltd. The supported Daughter Funds will promote innovation, R&D, product development and within the country.
15. Keeping in view the huge indigenous requirement on account of roadmap for digitalization of the broadcasting sector, Conditional Access System, entitled iCAS has been developed to promote indigenous manufacturing of Set Top Boxes (STBs). The iCAS is available to domestic STB manufacturers at a price of USD 0.5 per license for a period of three years as against market price of USD 4-5 per license for other competing products. The implementation of iCAS in the cable networks is underway.
16. An Electropreneur park has set up in New Delhi for providing incubation for development of ESDM sector which will contribute IP creation and Product Development in the sector.
17. National Centre of Excellence in Large Area Flexible Electronics (NCFLEX) has been set up in IIT-Kanpur with the objectives to promote R&D; Manufacturing; Ecosystems; Entrepreneurship; International Partnerships and Human Resources and develop prototypes in collaboration with industry for commercialization.
18. National Centre of Excellence for Technology on Internal Security (NCETIS) has been set up at IIT-Bombay with the objective to address the internal security needs of the nation on continuous basis by delivering technology prototypes required for internal security and to promote domestic industry in internal security.
19. Centre for Excellence on Internet of Things (IoT) has been set up in Bengaluru jointly with NASSCOM.
20. An Incubation center with focus on medical electronics has been set up at Indian Institute of Technology-Patna.
21. An Incubation Center at Kochi with focus on consumer electronics is being set up at IIITM.
22. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) provides funding under several schemes for promotion of R&D, including support for International Patents in Electronics & IT (SIP-EIT); Multiplier Grants Scheme and Scheme for Technology Incubation and Development of Entrepreneurs (TIDE) in the area of Electronics, ICT and Management.
23. MeitY has approved a project to be implemented by Global Innovation and Technology Alliance (GITA) to promote Innovation, IP, R&D and commercialization of products, etc. in the ESDM sector by providing funding support to an Industry, for doing collaborative research with an Academic Institute in the priority areas with a timeline of not more than two years.
24. MeitY has approved a project being implemented by Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC) to promote scientific and technological research in Medical Electronics sector in India to address the pressing challenges associated with the development of innovative medical electronics and making it available, accessible and affordable to the people at the bottom of the pyramid.

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